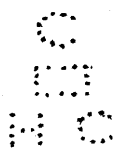


PERFINNED & UNDERPRINTED

By Mike Hemsall

Recently I was fortunate to be able to purchase a small lot of off-paper G.B, material containing a fair proportion of perfins. Amongst these some 24 stamps were discovered which are of particular interest:

1) Firstly, one of 4 stamps bearing the design illustrated below bore the underprint COPESTAKE/MOORE/CRAMPTON/& Co.,/LONDON (type 8) in venetian red.



10/14/10,9
4mm/3½mm/4mm

This underprinted perfin was found on a Queen Victoria 1d Venetian Red (K3), postmarked "93" (London) but was undated. I have not so far been able to find any other reference to such an underprinted perfin and would welcome correspondence from anyone who can throw additional light on this possibly unique item. I assume that an underprint is, of course, an adequate method of proving an identity.

(Editor : Jennings lists this item as being due to a change in

partnership in the firm at about the time that perfins were replacing underprints. The 'new' name was Copestake, Hughes, Crampton & Company and, the oblong was thought to be a device for obliterating the name Moore. Two values are listed as so underprinted and perforated, 1878 3d rose and 1880 1d venetian red)

Three other stamps bearing the same perfin are listed below. The design is identical with the above except that in the case of the asterisked item a pin is missing at the extreme bottom right of the lower 'C'.

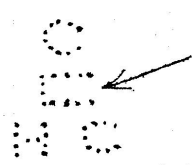
* 1d lilac 14 dot Postmark illegible.

1d lilac 14 dot Postmark : Plymouth August 23 1881

1d lilac 16 dot Postmark : Numeral "466"

The following 2 perfin designs are so similar to that shown above and, since they came from the same batch of stamps, I submit that they can be accepted as coming from the same firm, but perhaps different branches thereof.

2)



This perfin was found on 8 stamps, all of which being identical with the illustration except for a missing pin in the item marked with an asterisk. Again this occurred in the lower 'C' but was the second pin from the right in the upper curve of the letter.

Measurements as 1)

½d green Type K1	Postmark : Manchester J52 Ap 19 1882
" "	Postmark : Numeral "700"
" "	Postmark : "NPB"

1d lilac	16 dot	Type K6	Postmark : Numeral "93"
* "	"	"	Postmark : a numeral "3" or "7" only the top of the numeral being visible.
1½d Venetian Red		Type K3	Postmark : Numeral "93"
2d rose		Type K4	Postmark : Octagonal 3 line frame "London Mr 8 82"
2d "		"	Postmark : As above but dated, "Ap 11 82"

3)



9/3 dots/9,9
3mm/¾mm dia./3½mm.

This perf in occurred on 12 stamps, all being identical except for a missing pin in the item marked with an asterisk. The pin in question is the second from the right in the top curve of the upper 'C'.

½d green		Type K1	Postmark : Numeral "498"
" "			Postmark : Manchester T Mar 3 1882
" "			Postmark : Manchester D18 Dec 21 '82
1d lilac	16 dot	Type K6	Postmark : London AO 8 Ap ?
" "	" "	"	Postmark : London Sep 27 '82
" "	" "	"	Postmark : London 9 May '82
1½d Venetian Red		Type K3	Postmark : London CO Dec 5 '81
" "	" "	"	Postmark : Numeral "93"
" "	" "	"	Postmark : "NPB"
" "	" "	"	Postmark : London CP 9 May '82
2d Rose		Type K4	Postmark illegible.
" "		"	Postmark illegible

If anyone can throw any additional light on this group of perfins I would be most grateful.

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